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## TWO MEXICAN NATIONALS SENTENCED TO 35 YEARS EACH FOR LEADING VAST DRUG CONSPIRACY

PHOENIX – On July 26, 2007, U.S. District Judge Neil V. Wake sentenced members of a vast drug enterprise to federal prison. The leaders of the organization, Abraham Beltran-Moreno and Jose Angel Beltran-Moreno, both from Mexico, were each sentenced to 420 months. Jorge Luis Camacho, a co-conspirator in the organization, was sentenced to 120 months. His wife, Mirna Camacho, received a 78 month sentence. Phoenix DEA agents arrested most of the conspirators on April 15, 2005, at various locations in the valley. In June and July 2005, Assistant U.S. Attorneys filed multiple indictments charging 14 members of the conspiracy with multiple drug related felonies. The Beltran-Morenos and the Camachos were all convicted of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute drugs. The conspiracy involved the distribution of methamphetamine, cocaine, and heroin.

Abraham and Jose Angel Beltran-Moreno are brothers, and were the leaders of the conspiracy. They coordinated shipments of methamphetamine from Mexico to Arizona, and then distributed it. Moreno made organizational decisions. They operated multiple narcotics "stash houses" throughout Phoenix. They used these homes to distribute methamphetamine, cocaine, and heroin throughout the valley, and other locations in the United States. An extensive investigation, based upon information from wire taps and surveillance, led to their arrest. Agents seized more than 30 pounds of methamphetamine, more than four pounds of heroin, two pounds of crack cocaine, and numerous weapons from the drug trafficking organization. As a result of the overwhelming evidence against them, both conspirators pleaded guilty to the charges and received a 35 year sentence for their crimes.

Jorge Camacho, a brother-in-law of the Beltran-Morenos, also held a pivotal role in the drug conspiracy. He controlled several individuals who delivered and distributed drugs. He also processed methamphetamine in order to distribute it. Mirna Camacho, the sister of the leaders, had knowledge of the conspiracy and assisted her husband and brothers in its operation. As a result of the overwhelming evidence against them, husband and wife pleaded guilty to the charges. Jorge's 10 year sentence reflects his significant role in the organization, while Mirna's 6.5 year sentence reflects her lesser role in the organization.

The DEA has arrested 11 members of the conspiracy, and the U.S. Attorney's office has prosecuted them. The Arizona Department of Public Safety and Phoenix Police Department assisted in the arrests. Three members of the conspiracy are fugitives. Brian G. Larson and Glenn B. McCormick, Assistant U.S. Attorneys, handled the case for the U.S. Attorney's office.

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